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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

May 6, 2014

The Honorable Kay Hagan
United States Senate
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hagan:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Kilah Davenport Child Protection Act. I know how seriously you take issues related to public safety in the State of North Carolina. Your leadership on the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act and the Student Nondiscrimination Act is certainly evidence of that. No one wants to see another child abused by those who should be caring for them.

My staff has been reviewing this legislation to determine how it will help the child it is named for and since no hearing was held in the House of Representatives, that inquiry has taken some time. I have no quarrel with the provision requiring a survey of public laws related to child abuse but the scope of the bill only applying to child abuse on federal land is what led me to question its value. If you are convinced that it is important, then I will defer to your judgment. I know you have been a strong supporter of the Senate companion bill and it is gracious of you to push for passage of a different member's legislation rather than your own. If only such comity went both ways between the chambers, then we might actually accomplish something for the American people.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY
Chairman

